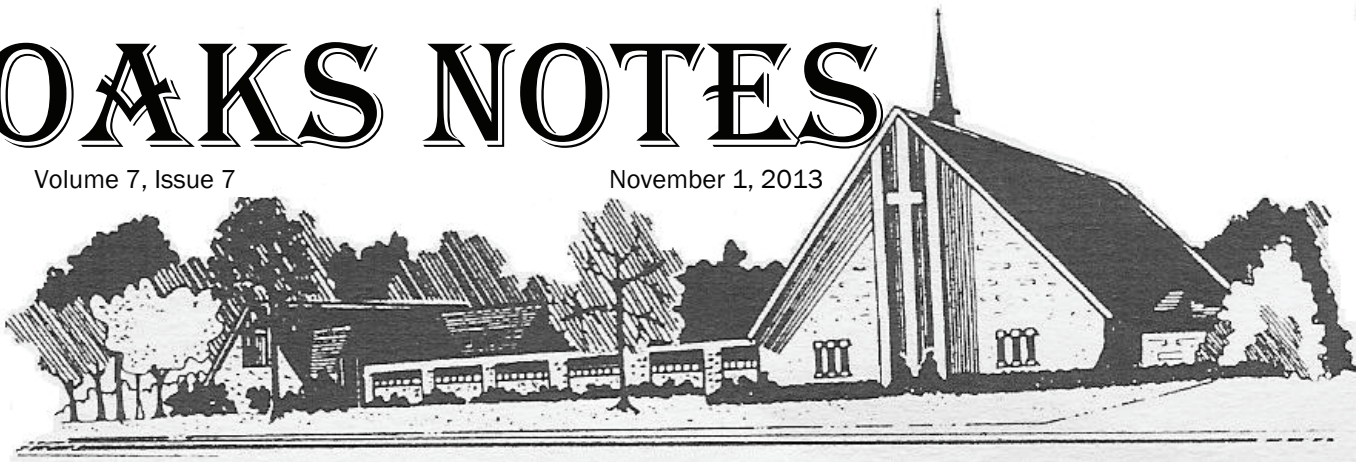


# OAKS NOTES

Volume 7, Issue 7

November 1, 2013



*Oaks Christian Church is a family church that loves to share God's word, God's Love, and God's fellowship with the world. We are a church in the near inner loop that strives to be a helpful part of the community. We are about Deep Christian spirituality, a true community and a passion for Justice. We celebrate communion every Sunday service and all who believe are welcome to receive.*



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## A Note from Pastor Don

A Couple of weeks ago, I left the church after Bible study a little later than usual. I decided to just stop at Subway on the way home to pick up dinner.

Once inside, the Subway employee asked me how I was doing. I told him, to be honest, I'm really tired. He asked why. I told him I'd just come from the office, and it had been a long day, but fortunately, I loved my job.

Then he took my order of one 6-inch sandwich, one foot long sandwich, chips, and two drinks. While he took the time to fix these, there was a man who had come in behind me.

He was a big man, standing much taller than me. He began to order a 6-inch sandwich and a drink. Noticing that his Subway order was smaller than mine, I told him to skip in front of me so he could get through the line faster.

When my order was completed, I walked to the cash register, and I pulled out my wallet to pay for my sandwiches. The Subway employee taking my order said no need to... the man in front

of you paid for your meal!

I saw that man was putting a lid on his drink and getting ready to walk out. So, I quickly rushed over and said, "Really, thank you... any special reason?"

He said it just seemed like the right thing to do.

I have no idea if that man was a believer or not, but it really doesn't matter. The point I want to make is that he acted how we as believers need to act.

And I'm not saying we need to go out and buy a bunch of strangers lunch or dinner. But kindness is one of the fruits of the spirit, and Jesus always taught on generosity and giving, especially to those who may be tired and worn out.

Though this man did not know who I was, or what I did for a living, he went ahead and bought my dinner. He didn't let our racial or ethnic barriers get in the way. He just helped out another one of God's creations because he said it "SEEMED" like the right thing to do.

We **KNOW** the right thing to do... for He has told us. We just need to do it. Let's be models of generosity and kindness. And if you want to practice by buying me lunch, you know where to find me! See ya Sunday!

In His Grip,  
Pastor Don





# November


Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Renovada Bible Study @ 7:30 pm	2
3 Sunday School @ 9:30 am; Worship @ 10:45 am; Renovada Lunch @ 2-6 pm	4	5 CWF @ 10 am Bible Study @ 6:15 pm	6 Handbells @ 6 pm; Choir @ 7 pm	7	8 Renovada Bible Study @ 7:30 pm	9
10 Sunday School @ 9:30 am; Worship @ 10:45 am; Board Meeting after church	11 Veterans Day	12 Prayer Circle @ 9:30 am; CWF @ 10 am; Bible Study @ 6:15 pm	13 Handbells @ 6 pm; Choir @ 7 pm	14	15 Renovada Bible Study @ 7:30 pm	16
17 Sunday School @ 9:30 am; Worship @ 10:45 am; Stewardship Lunch	18	19 CWF @ 10 am Bible Study	20 Handbells @ 6 pm; Choir @ 7 pm	21	22 Renovada Bible Study @ 7:30 pm	23 Oaks T-Day Meal @ 12-2 pm
24 Sunday School @ 9:30 am; Worship @ 10:45 am; Renovada T-Day @ 2-6 pm.	25	26 CWF @ 10 am Bible Study: To Be Decided	27 Handbells @ 6 pm; Choir @ 7 pm	28 Thanksgiving Day	29 Renovada Bible Study @ 7:30 pm	30

## Happy November Birthdays!

11/4 Wesley Hudson  
11/12 Charles Slocum  
11/15 Jacob Salinas  
11/17 Louise Pitts  
11/19 Rod King  
11/22 Susan Hirt Dyes,  
Linda Joseph  
11/25 Bill Odena  
11/27 Don Whitley

## November Anniversaries

11/5 Joe & Jimmye Saldivar  
11/22 Jose & Jennifer Salinas



**Get Them Before They're Gone!**

There's not much time left! CWF cookies will be on sale for just a little longer! Remember, the CWF ladies are only baking cookies for the orders they receive. After that, it's TOO LATE! Make sure you turn in your order form no later than November 17! For any questions, please call the office!

## LET US KNOW!

If there are events, meetings, or stories you would like to see in the December newsletter, please let us know! E-mail the church secretary, Holly Leger, at oakscchouston@aol.com.

Please send in all information before  
**Monday, November 18, 2013!**

## From the Treasurer - Dorene Drake

Operating Account 2013	2013 JULY	2013 AUGUST	2013 SEPTEMBER
Deposits	\$11,145.00	\$8,352.50	\$10,873.00
Disbursements	\$10,405.28	\$10,897.03	\$9,879.22
Difference	\$739.72	(\$2,544.53)	\$993.78



# LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

## New Lights in Sanctuary Completed

After much anticipation, the sanctuary lighting project is complete.

During the last two weeks of October, a crew from Lutz Electrical Contracting LP installed new LED lights, which are expected to last longer and burn brighter than the church's previous lighting.

Pastor Don Joseph said during the installation, he walked to the sanctuary each day to check on the progress, and it didn't take long for him to begin noticing a difference.

When the project was completed, and all the new lights were turned on, he said he was thrilled with the final product.

"I have seen what (the new lights) look like, and to say I'm excited would be an understatement," he said. "What they will do for our sanctuary and worship cannot be put into words."

Because crews are still working on final maintenance tasks within the sanctuary, the congregation will continue to meet in Kirchner Hall for the time being.

However, Pastor Don said he looks forward to starting advent in the newly-lit sanctuary come December.



A Crew Member installs lighting equipment in the sanctuary during the last week of October.

# Join the New Bible Study

After finishing a Bible Study series in Sept., the Oaks Bible Study group voted on the next topic of discussion, and decided upon the Book of Romans.

Despite the study getting off to a bit of a late start in mid Oct., Pastor Don Joseph said it's never too late to join the group.

He said there are still extra study books available, and newcomers are always welcome.

"People can get in this thing anytime," he said.

So far, the group has covered why Romans was written and who it is written to.

As the study progresses, they will also examine subjects like grace, purpose, righteousness and justification.

Joseph said studies are going well and that Romans has proven a good choice.

"In some ways," he said, "it lays out the theology of the church."

The group meets every Tuesday night at 6:15 in the Hospitality Room.

# Combining Forces and Giving Thanks at Oaks

This year, Thanksgiving will be even larger at the Oaks. For the first time, Oaks is combining the Thanksgiving meal with the monthly Community Lunch.

The change was made in order to share the joys and gifts of Thanksgiving with those in the community, too.

The lunch, happening Nov. 23 from 12 pm to 2 pm, will be a pot luck. The CWF women will provide the turkey breast, but members are invited to contribute with their favorite holiday dishes and desserts.

To celebrate the Thanksgiving spirit, we asked Oaks members to share some of their own Turkey-Day thoughts and traditions.



**Don Murray**

**What are some of your favorite dishes at the Oaks Thanksgiving each year?**

*Sweet Potatoes, Dressing, and Turkey*

**Jimmy Dixon**



**What are you thankful for this year?**

*Having three daughters around me all the time and for their support after their mother died.*

**Pat Scruggs**



**If you had to eat only one traditional Thanksgiving food for every meal the rest of your life, what would you choose?**

*Fruit Cake. My mom always made Fruit cake from scratch.*

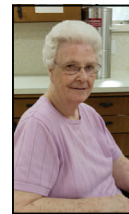
**Janet Duplechain**



**Why is it good to combine the Thanksgiving meal with Community Lunch?**

*Because we can reach out and show God how thankful we are by blessing others. This should be all the time.*

**Billie Murray**



**What do you enjoy most about coming to the Oaks Thanksgiving Meal?**

*Being able to visit with friends and enjoy good food.*

**Julie Clawson**



**Which Bible character (besides Jesus) would you choose to share a Thanksgiving meal with?**

*Any of the disciples. I would want to talk to someone that was close with Jesus and knew him.*

**Don Joseph**



**What are your plans for Thanksgiving this year?**

*We will be at the beach with the Formans, with whom we've celebrated Thanksgiving with since Kelsey was in 4th grade.*

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## Thanks for Making Trunk-or-Treat Terrific!

